

Application No. 09/195,105
Amendment dated May 27, 2010
Reply to Office Action of December 8, 2009

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A point of sale tax reporting system in an environment where a consumer purchases goods, the point of sale tax reporting system comprising:

at least one tax register located at a location of a merchant or retailer, said at least one tax register adapted to process data for a consumer sales transaction at the merchant or retailer location and compute use tax data for the transaction to be indicated to an appropriate government state agency based upon ~~at least one of a location of the consumer and a location where purchased goods are to be shipped~~, said at least one tax register forwarding said transaction data and said use tax data to at least one of the government state agency and a credit card processing company for processing, wherein a ~~transaction number associated with and identifying the transaction is provided by said at least one tax register to the consumer, and said transaction data includes~~ at least an amount of money received by the merchant or retailer from the consumer for the purchased goods; and

~~a computer system including at least a first computer and a corresponding first memory disposed at the state agency, said first computer and said first memory adapted to receive and store said transaction data and said use tax data forwarded from one of the credit card processing company and the merchant or retailer location;~~

a first communication link permitting the connection over a network of at least one of (i) said at least one tax register at the merchant or retailer location and (ii) the credit card processing company, to a computer system including at least a computer and a corresponding memory disposed at the government

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agency, the computer and the memory adapted to receive, process and store said transaction data and said use tax data forwarded from one of the credit card processing company and the merchant or retailer locationsaid computer system at the state agency, said first communication link for permitting said at least one tax register or the credit card processing company to forward said transaction data and said use tax data to the said first computer and the said first memory so that said transaction data and said use tax data from the merchant or retailer is automatically forwarded to the governmentstate agency and stored in the said first memory in order to help enforce tax laws and prevent at least one of the consumer and the merchant or retailer from avoiding payment of a use tax; and
~~a second communication link permitting the consumer to connect with said computer system at the state agency, said second communication link enabling the consumer to input said transaction number to said computer system and receive confirmation from the state agency whether the transaction associated with and identified by said transaction number has been properly reported.~~

2. (previously presented) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 1, wherein said at least one tax register is adapted to process data for the consumer sales transaction where the consumer purchases the goods with one of a credit card, a debit card, and any form of electronic payment.
3. (previously presented) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 1, wherein said first communication link is one of a digital packet switched network and a satellite network.
4. (previously presented) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 1, further including at the merchant or retailer location means for accessing the credit card processing company in response to the transaction so that the credit card processing company automatically charges a credit card of the consumer with both a sales price of the purchased goods and the use tax based upon the location where the consumer requests that the purchased goods be shipped.

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5. (previously presented) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 4, further including means for allowing the credit card processing company to forward the use tax charged to the consumer to the state agency, wherein the use tax, where appropriate, is automatically charged to the consumer, and where the use tax includes a sales tax.
6. (previously presented) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 1, further including means for issuing a tax stamp receipt to the consumer as evidence of a tax paid for attachment to a parcel.
7. (previously presented) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 1, further including a connection to a digital data network to provide for the connection of the merchant or retailer location to the location of the consumer, said digital data network for allowing the consumer to purchase the goods from the merchant or retailer via said digital data network.
8. (previously presented) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 1, wherein said first communication link includes the use of at least one of a telephone line, a digital data network, and a satellite wireless communication link.
9. (currently amended) A point of sale tax reporting system in an environment where a consumer purchases goods over a digital data network, the point of sale tax reporting system comprising:
 - said digital data network adapted to enable the consumer to purchase goods over said digital data network from a merchant or retailer;
 - ~~at least one of a first computer and a register located at a location of the merchant or retailer, said at least one of a first computer and a register adapted to process consumer sales transaction data at the merchant or retailer location, calculate the use tax to be received by the government agency based upon a location where the goods are to be shipped, and forward use tax data and the transaction data for a transaction to at least one of a government state authorized entity and a credit card processing company, wherein a transaction number associated with and identifying the transaction is provided by said at least one of~~

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~~a first computer and a register to the consumer, and the transaction data~~
~~including~~includes at least an amount of money received or to be received by the
merchant or retailer from the consumer for the transaction; and

~~a computer system including at least a second computer and a~~
~~corresponding memory disposed at the state authorized entity, said second~~
~~computer and said corresponding memory adapted to receive and store the use~~
~~tax data and the transaction data forwarded from one of the credit card~~
~~processing company and the merchant or retailer; and~~

a first communication link permitting the connection of at least one of (i)
said ~~at least one of a first computer and a register~~ at the merchant or retailer
location and (ii) the credit card processing company, to a computer system
including at least a computer and a corresponding memory disposed at the
government authorized entity, the computer and the corresponding memory
adapted to receive and store the use tax data and the transaction data forwarded
from one of the credit card processing company and the merchant or retailersaid
~~second computer and said corresponding memory at the state authorized entity,~~
said first communication link for permitting said ~~at least one of a first computer~~
~~and a register,~~ or the credit card processing company to forward the use tax data
and the transaction data to ~~thesaid second computer and thesaid~~ corresponding
memory, wherein the use tax data from the merchant or retailer is automatically
forwarded by said computer register to the ~~government~~state authorized entity
and stored in ~~thesaid~~ corresponding memory in order to help enforce tax laws
and prevent at least one of the consumer and the merchant or retailer from
avoiding payment of a use tax; and

~~a second communication link permitting the consumer to connect with~~
~~said computer system at the state authorized entity, said second communication~~
~~link enabling the consumer to input said transaction number to said computer~~
~~system and receive confirmation from the state authorized entity whether the~~

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~~transaction associated with and identified by said transaction number has been properly reported.~~

10. (currently amended) The system of claim 9, wherein said ~~at least one of a first computer or a register~~ computes the use tax data.
11. (previously presented) The system of claim 9, wherein said digital data network includes a packet switched digital data network.
12. (currently amended) The system of claim 9, wherein the state government authorized entity is a State Treasury or a taxing authority.
13. (previously presented) The system of claim 9, further comprising means for charging a credit card of the consumer for purchasing the goods and the use tax due thereon.
14. (previously presented) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 1, wherein said at least one tax register comprises a PC-based point-of-sale system including a keyboard, a credit card reader, a bar code reader, and a receipt printer.

Claim 15 (cancelled).

16. (currently amended) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 1, further comprising at the merchant or retailer means for causing each of: (a) summaries of transactions to be provided; (b) a summary list of the transactions to be provided; and (c) a checking account of the merchant or retailer to be charged so that money is taken from the checking account of the merchant or retailer based on said transaction data and said use tax data forwarded to said ~~first computer~~ and said ~~first memory~~.
17. (currently amended) A point of sale tax reporting system in an environment where a consumer purchases goods, the point of sale tax reporting system comprising:

a tax register located at a location of a retailer, said tax register adapted to process data for a consumer sales transaction at the retailer and compute use tax data for the transaction to be provided to an appropriate government state

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agency based upon ~~at least one of a location of the consumer and a location~~ where purchased goods are to be shipped, said tax register forwarding said transaction data and said use tax data to at least one of the government state agency and a credit card processing company for processing, ~~wherein a transaction number associated with and identifying the transaction is provided by said tax register to the consumer, and said transaction data including~~ includes at least an amount of money received by the retailer from the consumer for the purchased goods;

~~a computer system at the state agency including at least a first computer and a corresponding first memory, said first computer and said first memory adapted to receive and store said transaction data and said use tax data forwarded from one of the credit card processing company and the retailer;~~

a first-communication link permitting the connection over a network of at least one of (i) said tax register at the location of the retailer and (ii) the credit card processing company, to a computer system at the government agency including at least a computer and a corresponding memory, the computer and the memory adapted to receive and store said transaction data and said use tax data forwarded from one of the credit card processing company and the ~~retailer~~ ~~said first computer and said first memory~~, said first-communication link for permitting said tax register or the credit card processing company to forward said transaction data and said use tax data to the said first computer and the said first memory so that said transaction data and said use tax data from the retailer is automatically forwarded to and stored in the said first memory in order to help enforce tax laws and prevent at least one of the consumer and the retailer from avoiding the payment of a use tax; and

said tax register ~~means for~~ causing at the retailer each of: (a) summaries of transactions to be provided; (b) a summary list of the transactions to be provided; and (c) a checking account of the retailer to be charged so that money is taken from the checking account of the retailer based on said transaction data

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and said use tax data forwarded to the said first computer and the said first memory; and

~~a second communication link permitting the consumer to connect with said computer system at the state agency, said second communication link enabling the consumer to input said transaction number to said computer system and receive confirmation from the state agency whether the transaction associated with and identified by said transaction number has been properly reported.~~

18. (previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein said tax register is adapted to process data for the consumer sales transaction where the consumer purchases the goods with one of a credit card, a debit card, and any form of electronic payment.
19. (currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein said first communication link is one of a digital packet switched network and a satellite network.
20. (previously presented) The system of claim 17, further including a digital data network provided so as to connect the retailer location to the location of the consumer, said digital data network for allowing the consumer to purchase the goods from the retailer via said digital data network.
21. (previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein said tax register comprises a PC-based point-of-sale system including a keyboard, a credit card reader, a bar code reader, and a receipt printer.
22. (currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein said computer system further includes a verifying computer connected to said computer and first computer, said first memory, and ~~said second communication link~~, the said verifying computer adapted to receive the transaction number from the consumer and send confirmation to the consumer that the transaction has been properly reported.
23. (currently amended) The point of sale tax reporting system of claim 1, wherein said computer system further includes a verifying computer connected to said

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~~computer and the first computer, said first memory, the and said second communication link, said verifying computer adapted to receive at the transaction number from the consumer and send confirmation to the consumer that the transaction has been properly reported.~~

24. (currently amended) The system of claim 9, wherein said computer system further includes a verifying computer connected to ~~the computer and the said second computer, said corresponding memory, the and said second communication link, said verifying computer adapted to receive at the transaction number from the consumer and send confirmation to the consumer that the transaction has been properly reported.~~
25. (currently amended) The system of claim 9, wherein said ~~at least one of a first computer and a register~~ is adapted to process data for the consumer sales transaction where the consumer purchases the goods with one of a credit card, a debit card, and any form of electronic payment.
26. (currently amended) The system of claim 9, wherein said ~~first communication link~~ is one of a digital packet switched network and a satellite network.
27. (currently amended) The system of claim 9, wherein said ~~at least one of a first computer and a register~~ comprises a PC-based point-of-sale system including a keyboard, a credit card reader, a bar code reader, and a receipt printer.
28. (new) A point of sale tax reporting system for e-commerce transactions, comprising:

at least one tax register including a processor configured to process transaction data and generate tax data including a calculation of an amount of tax to be paid to a government taxing authority for a purchase made over the Internet by a consumer; and

a communication link for effecting delivery over the network of said tax data to the government taxing authority, said tax register being programmed to transmit said tax data concerning the purchase made over the Internet to the government taxing authority via said communication link.

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29. (new) The system of claim 28, wherein said tax register is connected by the communication link with a credit card company, said tax register being programmed to transmit an instruction to the credit card company via the communication link, the instruction authorizing the credit card company to charge the consumer's credit card for the purchase.
30. (new) A point of sale tax reporting system, comprising:
at least one tax register of a retailer, said tax register including a processor configured to process transaction data and generate tax data including a calculation of an amount of tax to be paid to a government taxing authority for a transaction between a consumer and the retailer; and
a communication link directly connecting over a network said tax register to the government taxing authority, said tax register being programmed to transmit said tax data directly to the government taxing authority via said communication link.
31. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein said transaction data includes an amount of money received by the retailer from the consumer for said transaction.
32. (new) A computer implemented tax reporting system for consumer-retailer transactions, comprising:
a computer system including at least one processor associated with at least one software component executable by the processor collectively operable to:
process transaction data including a sales transaction between a consumer and a retailer,
generate tax data including a calculation of an amount of tax to be paid to a government taxing authority based on the sales transaction,
directly connect via a communication link over a network to the government taxing authority, and
automatically transmit said tax data over the network directly to the government taxing authority via the communication link.

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33. (new) A point of sale tax reporting system for e-commerce transactions between a consumer and a retailer, comprising:

a processor at a location remote from the retailer that is conducting the e-commerce transactions, said processor programmed to receive, over a network, transaction data and tax data from the retailer, the tax data including an amount of tax to be paid to a government taxing authority for a purchase made over the Internet by the consumer from the retailer, said processor being programmed to automatically debit an account of the retailer in accordance with the amount of tax to be paid to the government taxing authority.